

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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TITLE: SELF-LOCKING OSTEOSYNTHESIS DEVICE

Preliminary Amendment: ABSTRACT AMENDMENTS

On page 12, please amend the paragraph as follows:

The invention relates to a self-locking osteosynthesis device of the type comprising includes a plate (1) which is equipped with holes (2) for the passage of fixation screws (3). The invention is characterised in that, at least in the areas (4) defining the screw holes (2), the aforementioned plate (1) is made from a material having mechanical properties such that the periphery of ~~said~~ the holes can be self-tapped by means of tapping screws which can be used to fix the plate.